

# U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

## Southside Chattanooga Lead

### Chattanooga, Tennessee



#### Remedial Action Fact Sheet

September 2019

This fact sheet provides updated information regarding the transition of the EPA cleanup activities at the Southside Chattanooga Lead Superfund Site (the Site) from the Time-Critical Removal Action (TCRA) to the Remedial Action (RA) cleanup. The TCRA focused on the cleanup of residential properties with high concentrations of lead in soil (over 1200 parts per million). The RA cleanup will continue to prioritize the residential properties with high concentrations of lead and, thereafter, the cleanup of all properties with lead above the cleanup goal (360 parts per million).

#### Our Current Progress by Numbers

Below, you will find data on the Site cleanup activities performed by the removal program thru August 30, 2019:



#### What to Expect

- There will be ongoing sampling of properties in the study areas (See Figure 1).
- Construction activities in and around the neighborhoods will increase over the next few months.
- EPA plans to set up monthly availability sessions. In the meantime, residents are asked to call the (877) 760-9257 hotline for assistance.

#### Next Steps

- Contaminated soil stockpile will be disposed of offsite.
- EPA representatives will continue to go door to door to request access for sampling and cleanup.
- Multiple properties will be cleaned up at the same time; and we will try to group cleanup on each street to reduce disruptions to residents.

#### GOOD NEWS:

EPA will proceed with cleanup of all residential properties with lead above 360 parts per million (not just high concentrations)!

EPA hopes to sample all residential properties in the study area by June 2020.

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation will assist the EPA in overseeing activities to ensure your health and property are safe.

Monthly availability sessions will be scheduled soon so that your questions can be answered in person.



## Safety Concerns

Safety has always been a priority when working on EPA projects, but especially when working in residential areas. We will work with each resident to ensure that children, pets and adults are safe when sampling and cleanup activities are taking place. If you notice any conditions that you think are not safe, please point them out to onsite workers or call Jasmin Jefferies at (404) 304-2817.

## Current Scope of Cleanup

The current scope of the residential sampling and cleanup in the study area is provided in the tables below. As properties are sampled, this information will be updated and made available to you.

Neighborhood	Total Yards to Sample	Sampled Yards As of 5/7/19	Yards to Sample As of 5/7/19	Properties > 360 ppm	Properties > 1200 ppm	Percent Properties > 360 ppm
Alton Park	560	273	287	76	2	29%
Cowart Place	163	48	115	18	0	38%
East Lake	2235	140	2095	30	1	22%
Highland Park	1548	356	1192	201	31 (26)	65%
Jefferson Heights	171	137	44	24	15 (15)	23%
Oak Grove	608	78	530	29	0	37%
Richmond	55	32	23	14	0	44%
Southside Gardens	143	58	85		6 (6)	5%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5483</b>	<b>1122</b>	<b>4371</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>55 (47)</b>	<b>39%</b>
<b>Total Site (+ 84 Reed St) <sup>1</sup></b>					<b>139 (131)<sup>1</sup></b>	

ppm – parts per million

(Red #) – number of properties cleaned up before September 2019.

<sup>1</sup>An additional 84 properties were sampled and cleaned up on and near Reed Street before current scope was established.

In the Record of Decision, the EPA anticipates the need to cleanup an estimated 1,100 residential properties with lead concentrations greater than 360 parts per million in soil. The EPA thinks that it will take four to five years to:

- Get permission to sample the remaining 4371 properties;
- Sample the remaining 4371 properties;
- Get permission to conduct remedial actions at properties with lead greater than 360 parts per million;
- Excavate approximately 200,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and replace with clean backfill;
- Restore vegetation for residential use; and
- Dispose of contaminated soil at an appropriate offsite disposal facility.

The EPA is sympathetic to the fact that this work may be disruptive and will make every effort to conduct the work as expeditiously as possible to minimize the impact to residents. Priority will be given to properties with the highest concentrations and properties with children in residence, but all properties identified for cleanup will be addressed if permission is granted. We welcome your assistance in gaining access to sample and cleanup so that this work can be done quickly.



## Health Concerns

If you have concerns about your health or the health of your children, please contact your health provider. For further health information, please contact the TDH Environmental Health Program Manager Rebecca (Becky) Gorham at (615) 253-1399 or by email at [rebecca.gorham@tn.gov](mailto:rebecca.gorham@tn.gov).



Figure 1. Neighborhoods limits of Southside Chattanooga Lead Superfund Site.

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## FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

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### **TDH Environmental Health Program Manager**

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## VISIT OUR WEBSITE

<https://www.epa.gov/superfund/southside-chattanooga-lead>

## INFORMATION REPOSITORY FOR SITE RELATED DOCUMENTS



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